

"REDVERS,"

EXMOUTH,

25th April, 1921.

TO THE
CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
BUDLEIGH SALTERTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT,
- 1920. -

Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report for 1920,
dealing with the Public Health of the District.

The contents and arrangements of the Subjects will
be on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health
in their Memorandum to Medical Officers of Health.



(1).

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The Population at the Census of 1911 was 2,170, and the estimated Population for 1920 is 2,522.

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON lies about halfway between Exmouth and Sidmouth, in a sheltered valley running south-south-east to the sea. The soil—gravel over red sandstone—dries up rapidly after rain. A long street sloping gently to the sea, fringed by houses which allow plenty of breathing space between them, and intersected in its lower part by a limpid stream, a pleasant beach, a cliff-walk of gentle slope, a wealth of blossom and foliage—these are the charms of Budleigh Salterton. There is a fine Golf course, plenty of Tennis, Cricket and Fishing (river or sea); fog is uncommon and is only from the sea. The chief occupations of the Inhabitants are gardening, fishing, and the letting of apartments. There are no Factories in the district.

Vital Statistics.

Last year two estimates of Population were issued, one for the death-rate, which included all non-civilian males whether serving at home or abroad, and another for the birth-rate, which comprised all the elements of the population contributing to the birth and marriage rates. For 1920 only one estimate has been given, viz., 2,522.

During the year there were 29 Deaths, 14 males and 15 females, producing a deathrate of 11.4 per 1,000. This figure compares favourably with last year's deathrate—15.2. The deathrate for England and Wales is 12.4.

The Births numbered 32, all but one being legitimate, 11 males and 21 females, giving a birthrate of 12.6 per 1,000, against 8.7 in 1919, and 25.4 for England and Wales. There are several factors operating in Budleigh Salterton which combine to produce such a low birthrate, and they have been mentioned in previous Reports.

Zymotic Death-rate.

This term indicates the deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases, viz., Smallpox, Measles, Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever (Typhus and Typhoid), and Diarrhœa. I am very pleased to be able to state that no deaths occurred from any of these diseases.

Infant Mortality.

This term denotes the number of Children dying under one year of age, and for the sake of uniformity calculated at so many per 1,000 births. No infant died under one year of age in 1920. The rate for England and Wales is 80 per 1,000 births.

(2).

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

The district is abundantly supplied with pure potable water from a well at Kersbrook, the water being pumped from thence to 3 distributing reservoirs,—Kersbrook, Sherbrook and Flagstaff. The Analyses—which are made twice yearly by the County Analyst—have been invariably satisfactory, both from a chemical and bacteriological point of view. Below are the details of the last analysis made and the Analyst's Report :—

4th November, 1920.

Dear Sir,

WATER SUPPLY.

I beg to enclose particulars of the results of analysis and bacteriological examination of the samples of water from the following sources, Well Spring, Sherbrook ; Sherbrook and Kersbrook which I received on 27th October last.

The respective degrees of hardness conform to the normal character of these sources of supply.

The quality of the saline and mineral constituents is perfectly satisfactory and the organic and bacterial purity of each of the samples is of the highest degree of excellence.

Yours faithfully,

THOMAS TICKLE.



PARTS PER 100,000	KERSBROOK	SHERBROOK WELL SPRING	SHERBROOK
Total Solid Constituents ...	34.0	11.0	34.0
Chlorine as Chlorides ...	3.7	4.2	2.8
Nitrites ...	0	0	0
Nitrites ...	0.42	0.43	0.42
Total Hardness ...	25.0	4.3	24.1
Temporary Hardness ...	19.7	0.5	19.4
Permanent ...	5.3	3.8	4.7
Saline Ammonia ...	0	0.0010	0.0008
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.0008	0.0020	0.0020
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours ...	0.015	0.02	0.015
Poisonous Metals ...	0	0	0
Bacillus Coli per 100 C.C. ...	0	not more than 2	0
Shepto coccus ...	0	0	0

Drainage and Sewerage. Quite satisfactory. The sewage is discharged into the sea at 12-hourly intervals. No complaints of any reflux on to the Foreshore have been received.

Closet Accommodation. The water carriage system is universal, with the exception of a few earth closets at the neighbouring hamlet of Kersbrook.

Scavenging. House Refuse, &c., is regularly removed twice a week. I have again to call attention to the old baths, boxes, &c., which in too many instances serve as receptacles for household rubbish and ashes. Refuse left exposed in this manner offers a congenial breeding place for flies, with the well known concomitant dangers. It is very necessary that



ashbins should be of galvanised iron, with closely fitting lids; by these means the fly nuisance would be lessened and the work of the scavengers rendered easier. At the same time as much refuse as possible should be burnt on the kitchen fire.

Sanitary Inspection of the District. During the year 53 Premises were inspected by the Inspector of Nuisances. No serious defects were discovered and those of a minor character were promptly attended to.

Schools. Disinfected once a year. General sanitation and water supply satisfactory.

(3).

Food.

Dairies, Milk Shops and Cowsheds. These have been regularly inspected by myself and the Inspector of Nuisances. All utensils have invariably been found clean, and the arrangements for the storage of the milk satisfactory. There have been no complaints of dirty milk.

Slaughter Houses. There are only two in the District. They have been regularly inspected and found free from defects.

Bakehouses. The three bakehouses were visited 11 times and found satisfactory, all Statutory requirements being complied with.

Unsound Food. The absence of a Public Abattoir in the District renders the inspection of meat at the time of slaughter very difficult. However, no complaints of unsound food have been brought to my notice.



(4).

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Disease.

Infectious Diseases Generally. Only fifteen cases were notified, viz. :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Chicken Pox	2		2
Malaria	1		1
Paratyphoid		1	1
Scarlatina		1	1
Puerperal Fever		1	1
Tuberculosis	3	6	9
			<hr/>
			15
			<hr/>

It is apparent that the reputation for freedom from infectious disease which the Town enjoys is still maintained.

Tuberculosis. Sputum cups and disinfectants are supplied in these cases, also cards pointing out, in simple language, the dangers of infection and the best means of preventing them. Rooms are cleansed and disinfected after removal or death of the patients. The examination of sputum is gratuitously undertaken for any Practitioner desiring it. The same steps are taken in cases of Diphtheria, swabs from the throat being examined and anti-toxin provided free of charge. I may add that cases of Tuberculosis are promptly notified by the Doctors practising in the District.

Disinfection. The usual steps are taken for the disinfection of infected premises, including those vacated by patients suffering from Cancer. I again call attention to the absence of a Steam Disinfector in the District. It is a very



necessary apparatus, and would prove of great value in many instances.

There is no Isolation Hospital in the District. Infectious cases are removed to Whipton—near Exeter. So far this arrangement has worked quite satisfactorily.

Maternity and Child Welfare. No Centre has yet been opened in the District, nor does it appear that one is required.

(5).

Sanitary Administration.

The work of your Sanitary Staff has been satisfactorily carried on during the year, and no complaints have reached me of any negligence on the part of your Officials.

(6).

Housing.

General Housing Conditions in the District. The total number of houses is 670, and of these 226 are for the Working Classes. No Artisan dwellings have been erected during the year.

Population. 2,522. No important changes have taken place, nor are any anticipated in the future.

With regard to the Housing Scheme, which was to provide for the erection of 50 houses, the matter is still in abeyance.

Overcrowding. Certainly exists to some extent during the Summer season, but nothing of a serious nature has come under—or been brought to—my notice which could be fairly attributed to this cause



Fitness of Houses. The general standard of housing in the District is satisfactory, and although the "Standard of Amenity" as laid down by the Ministry of Health has not been reached in some cases, still the District compares favourably in its housing with others of similar size. The usual defects, *i.e.*, defective w.c's., ill-paved yards, damp walls, &c., have been remedied when discovered, without having recourse to legal proceedings.

One dwelling was found to be unfit for human habitation, and, on my recommendation, was closed.

Two Tables are appended, one being the particulars of the Causes of Death, the other the Annual Report on Factories, Workshops, &c.

My best thanks are due to the Clerk and Surveyor for their assistance in the Compilation of this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CLARENCE BEESLEY,

Med. Off. Health.

1. Name of the person	2. Address
3. Date of birth	4. Date of death
5. Place of birth	6. Place of death
7. Occupation	8. Education
9. Marital status	10. Number of children
11. Date of marriage	12. Date of divorce
13. Date of remarriage	14. Date of remarriage
15. Date of remarriage	16. Date of remarriage
17. Date of remarriage	18. Date of remarriage
19. Date of remarriage	20. Date of remarriage
21. Date of remarriage	22. Date of remarriage
23. Date of remarriage	24. Date of remarriage
25. Date of remarriage	26. Date of remarriage
27. Date of remarriage	28. Date of remarriage
29. Date of remarriage	30. Date of remarriage
31. Date of remarriage	32. Date of remarriage
33. Date of remarriage	34. Date of remarriage
35. Date of remarriage	36. Date of remarriage
37. Date of remarriage	38. Date of remarriage
39. Date of remarriage	40. Date of remarriage
41. Date of remarriage	42. Date of remarriage
43. Date of remarriage	44. Date of remarriage
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63. Date of remarriage	64. Date of remarriage
65. Date of remarriage	66. Date of remarriage
67. Date of remarriage	68. Date of remarriage
69. Date of remarriage	70. Date of remarriage
71. Date of remarriage	72. Date of remarriage
73. Date of remarriage	74. Date of remarriage
75. Date of remarriage	76. Date of remarriage
77. Date of remarriage	78. Date of remarriage
79. Date of remarriage	80. Date of remarriage
81. Date of remarriage	82. Date of remarriage
83. Date of remarriage	84. Date of remarriage
85. Date of remarriage	86. Date of remarriage
87. Date of remarriage	88. Date of remarriage
89. Date of remarriage	90. Date of remarriage
91. Date of remarriage	92. Date of remarriage
93. Date of remarriage	94. Date of remarriage
95. Date of remarriage	96. Date of remarriage
97. Date of remarriage	98. Date of remarriage
99. Date of remarriage	100. Date of remarriage

Causes of Death in Budleigh Salterton Urban District, 1920.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>				<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
ALL CAUSES (Civilians only)	...			14	15
Influenza	...	...			1
Pulmonary tuberculosis	...			1	4
Cancer, malignant disease	...				1
Organic heart disease	...	...		1	2
Bronchitis	...	...		2	
Other respiratory diseases	...			1	
Appendicitis and typhlitis	...				1
Nephritis and Bright's disease	...			2	1
Violence, apart from suicide	...				1
Other defined diseases	...	...		7	4
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	...	...	TOTAL	none	none
Illegitimate	...	...	...	none	none
TOTAL BIRTHS	...	...	...	11	21
Legitimate	...	...	...	11	20
Illegitimate	...	...	...		1
POPULATION (for Births and Deaths)	...			2,522	



1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Prosecutions.</i>
Workshops	12	3	
Total	12	3	nil.

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Want of Ventilation	3	3
Sanitary Accommodation (defective)	1	1
Total	4	4

3.—Registered Workshops.

	<i>Number.</i>
Bakehouses	3
Dressmaking	3
Laundry (Steam)	1
Tailoring	2
Total number on Register	9

4.—Other Matters.

	<i>Number.</i>
Notified by H.M. Inspector	3
Report (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	
Underground Bakehouses	nil.

CLARENCE BEESLEY,

25th April, 1921.

Medical Officer of Health.





